

EDITORIALS

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Hawaiian lands

Now *here's* a modest proposal

You have to say this for Ka Lahui, the sovereignty organization: They don't think small.

Mililani Trask, prime minister of the group, says as Hawaiians develop self-determination, they need to secure control of a land base. She suggests maybe half of the state's 4 million acres would do.

Trask says Hawaiians should have control over vast tracts of land now controlled by private foundations and trusts and by the state and federal governments, including the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust.

The proposal puts into stark terms what many fear could be a disruptive turn for the sovereignty movement. Ka Lahui's plan does not propose seizure of privately owned land. But it does suggest that an independent Hawaiian government — however that is defined — have control over lands that in any way can be seen as owned by, or held for the benefit of, Hawaiians.

The immediate reaction from big Hawaiian trusts such as the Bishop Estate and the Queen Emma Foundation was diplomatically vague. Obviously, they are in no mood to turn over their lands or

responsibilities to anyone.

Present and potential beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Home Lands trust can be expected to be equally suspicious. Some have been on waiting lists for a homestead for decades. How willing would they be to entrust their hopes to a new organization with a different and much broader mandate?

Ka Lahui's proposal does make one important point. Hawaiians have not been historically well-served by the various land trusts that are supposed to exist for their benefit. Some of that has changed, but not fast enough for many activists.

A self-governing Hawaiian "nation" may indeed do a better job. But despite the assertions of leadership groups such as Ka Lahui, the Sovereign Hawaiian Nation and others, that nation does not yet exist.

This latest lands proposal offers one — albeit radical — vision of where sovereignty is taking us. Still, it's important for opinions to be heard from all parts of the political spectrum if a broad-based consensus is to emerge that has any chance of becoming reality.



Abortion

☐ Yes: C

An accreditation did right by abortion training for midwives and gynecologists.

Imagine an in number of pediatricians who don't know how to administer immunizations. Picture the emergency room resident who knows how to start a fire, possibly fatal. It's unthinkable. Physicians would be trained in such basic saving procedures.

Then picture the obstetrician or gynecologist schooled in how to end the life of a woman, including a miscarriage, pregnant woman, uterine cancer. Such procedures may require the termination of that pregnancy.

Last week an accreditation council that oversees

Arakawas closing

Waipahu will lose a bit of soul

The sadness many feel about the planned closing of venerable Arakawas store in Waipahu is more than mere nostalgia.

Certainly, there is nostalgia

Cultural Garden Park, an attempt to preserve and present fast-disappearing plantation lifestyles. Countless community groups, sports teams and others